



THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
CASPER FIELD OFFICE



FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT & DECISION RECORD
For

Bowers Oil and Gas, Inc.
Antelope Mine Coal Bed Natural Gas Project

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT –WY-060-04-065

DECISION: It is my decision to approve Alternative B as described in the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) and authorize Bowers Oil and Gas, Inc.'s (BOG) Antelope Mine (AM) Coal Bed Natural Gas (CBNG) Plan of Development (POD) comprised of the following six federal Applications for Permit to Drill (APDs), as follows:

Antelope Mine Federal Well List					
Well (Federal)	Location	County	Lease	Surface Owner	Depth (ft)
BOG-Fed # 4-29	Lot 13, Sec. 29, T. 41 N., R. 71 W.	Converse	WYW142771	ACM*	295
BOG-Fed # 5-29	Lot 9, Sec. 29, T. 41 N., R. 71 W.	Converse	WYW142771	ACM	281
BOG-Fed # 1-28	Lot 13, Sec. 28, T. 41 N., R. 71 W.	Converse	WYW138120	ACM	315
BOG-Fed # 2-28	Lot 11, Sec. 28, T. 41 N., R. 71 W.	Converse	WYW138120	ACM	302
BOG-Fed # 3-28	Lot 5, Sec. 28, T. 41 N., R. 71 W.	Campbell	WYW138120	ACM	364
BOG-Fed # 4-28	Lot 2, Sec. 28, T. 41 N., R. 71 W.	Campbell	WYW138120	Litton**	393

* ACM – Antelope Coal Mine

** Litton – Patricia Litton

BOG previously drilled three fee CBNG wells in Section. 29, T. 41 N., R. 71 W. within the project area in the fall of 2003 that are presently shut-in, awaiting drilling and development of the six above-listed Federal AM POD wells: the BOG Fee # 1-29, BOG Fee # 2-29, and the BOG Fee # 3-29. The Antelope Mine CBNG Plan of Development includes the infrastructure (gas lines, water lines, power lines, roads, compressor, metering facility, and sales line) to develop the three fee wells already drilled in addition to the six proposed federal wells.

This approval is subject to adherence with all of the operating plans and mitigation measures contained in the Master Surface Use Plan of Operations, Drilling Plan, Water Management Plan, and information in individual APDs. This approval is also subject to operator compliance with all mitigation and monitoring requirements contained within the Powder River Oil and Gas Project Environmental Impact Statement and Resource Management Plan Amendment (PRB FEIS) approved April 30, 2003.

RATIONALE: The decision to authorize Alternative B, as described in the attached Environmental Assessment (EA), is based on the following:

1. The Operator, in their Plan of Development, has committed to:
 - € Comply with all applicable Federal, State and Local laws and regulations.
 - € Obtain the necessary permits from other agencies for the drilling, completion and production of these wells including water rights appropriations, the installation of water management facilities, water discharge permits, and relevant air quality permits.
 - € Provide water well agreements to the owners of record for permitted water wells within the area of influence of the action.
 - € Provide water analysis from a designated reference well in each coal zone.
2. The Operator has certified that a Surface Use Agreement has been reached with the Landowner(s).
3. Alternative B will not result in any undue or unnecessary environmental degradation.
4. It is in the public interest to approve these wells, as the leases are being drained of federal gas, resulting in a loss of revenue for the government.
5. Mitigation measures applied by the BLM will alleviate or minimize environmental impacts.
6. Alternative B is the environmentally-preferred Alternative.
7. The proposed action is in conformance with the PRB FEIS and the Approved Resource Management Plan for the Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Casper Field Office, November 1984.
8. Based on current information, we determined that no significant impacts in the spread of WNV would occur from the implementation of this project.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT: Based on the analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action in the attached environmental assessment, I have determined that no significant impacts are expected and, therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND APPEAL: Under BLM regulations, this decision is subject to administrative review in accordance with 43 CFR 3165. Any request for administrative review of this decision must include information required under 43 CFR 3165.3(b) (State Director Review), including all supporting documentation. Such a request must be filed in writing with the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003, no later than 20 business days after this Decision Record is received or considered to have been received.

Any party who is adversely affected by the State Director's decision may appeal that decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, as provided in 43 CFR 3165.4.

/s/ Patrick Moore
Assistant Field Manager, Mineral and Lands
Casper Field Office

July 22, 2004
Date